(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the chemists are following the same; and

(d) he reasons behind issuance of such an order?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) Government of India has not issued any specific orders to be complied with by the chemists. However, the chemists are required to comply with the provision under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945, in respect of sale of drugs while discharging their duties.

(b) to (d) Questions do not arise.

Two-child norm

1240. DR. M. N. DAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make any comprehensive plan to control population explosion in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the two-child norm is being considered as not feasible; and

(c) if so, the other norm conceived in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) the Government has adopted, the National Population Policy (NPP) in February 2000 which envisages certain National Socio-demographic Goals to be achieved by 2010 for paving the way for a stable population in the country by 2045, at a level consistent with the requirements of sustainable economic growth and social development. It provides a policy framework for advancing goals and prioritizing strategies during the next decade, to meet the reproductive and child health needs of the people of India, and to achieve net replacement levels (TFR=2.1) by 2010.

(b) and (c) The National Population Policy 2000 (NPP 2000) does not specifically adovocate a 'two child norms'. it affirms the commitment of Government towards stabilizing population of the country by allowing its citizens to make voluntary and informed decisions about their family size.

Malpractices at Test Tube Baby centres

1241. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to check the exhorbitant charges and other malpractices at the Test Tube Baby centres;

(b) whether Government plan to issue separate licences and regulate them by a separate Accrediation Authority;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any legislation is proposed to control these centres; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Indian Council of Medical Research along with National academy of medical sciences has drafted a "National Guidelines for Accreditation, Supervision and regulation of Assisted Reproduce Technologies (ART) Clines in India" on the request of the Government of India. These draft guidelines have been released for public debate. The guidelines address issues of informed decision-making, including information-giving and consent, counselling, research on embryos, storage of gametes and embryos, record keeping, prohibited and unacceptable practices, accreditation and approval process for research, research dissemination of results and the role of Institutional ethics Committees, complaints and appeals on legal, ethical and conscientious objection.

(b) to (c) based on the responses received from he Exports and civil society to the draft guidelines, Government will consider the need for instituting appropriate legal and administrative mechanisms to regulate ART services in the country.

Development of artificial skin from the membrane of fish

†1242. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the scientists of Kochi have claimed developing an artificial skin from the membrane of fish which can be used to heal the wounds of burn patients and also for the teeth related diseases; and

(b) if so, Government's view in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) no such report has been received by the Government.

National Population Policy

1241. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the National Population Policy norms for population stabilization;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.